



Official Safe Routes to School Program Proclamation

Month 00, 2008

Contact: (Name, Organization, and Telephone Number)

Whereas, children would be safer and more active if communities would take steps to make pedestrian safety and bike safety a priority.

Whereas, a lack of physical activity plays a leading role in rising rates of obesity, diabetes and other health problems among children and being able to walk or bicycle to school offers an opportunity to build activity into daily routine.

Whereas, driving students to school by private vehicle contributes to traffic congestion and air pollution around the school.

Whereas, an important role for parents and caregivers is to teach children about pedestrian safety and bike safety and become aware of the difficulties and dangers that children face on their trip to school each day, as well as the health and environmental risks related to physical inactivity and air pollution.

Whereas, community leaders and parents can determine the "walkability" and "bikeability" of their community by using the assessment tools in the Arkansas Safe Routes to School Walking and Wheeling toolkit.

Whereas, community members and leaders should make a plan to make immediate changes to enable children to safely walk and bicycle in our communities and develop a list of suggestions for improvements that can be done over time.

Whereas, children, parents and community leaders around the world are joining together to walk to school and evaluate walking and bicycling conditions in their communities.

Now Therefore, Be It Resolved that I, (Name, Title of Official) proclaim the beginning of the "Safe Routes to School" program in (Name of City, State) and encourage everyone to consider the safety and health of children today and everyday.